

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1 and 11.

1. (Twice Amended) A sled module for a mass storage device comprising:
a housing;
a circuit board mounted to a portion of the housing, the circuit board having an end mounted signal connector;
a mass storage device having an enclosure and a signal connector; and
spacers positioning the mass storage device within the housing at a position juxtaposed with respect to the circuit board such that the signal connector on the circuit board and the signal connector on the mass storage device are aligned with one another, the spacers thus permitting the sled module to mate with mass storage devices having signal connectors with different positional configurations.

11. (Twice Amended) A method for mounting a mass storage device having an enclosure and a signal connector comprising:
providing a sled module comprising a housing, a circuit board mounted to a portion of the housing, the circuit board having an end mounted signal connector;
positioning spacers within the housing such that the mass storage device, when inserted into the housing, is positioned with respect to the circuit board such that the signal connector on the circuit board and the signal connector on the mass storage device are aligned with one another, the spacers thus permitting the sled module to mate with mass storage devices having control signal connectors with different positional configurations; and
inserting the mass storage device within the housing.

Amendments to the claims are also indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

Please add new Claims 17-19.

17. A sled module adapted to be fit into a tray, comprising:

a circuit board, mounted within the sled module in a rear portion thereof, the circuit board providing a rear connector for power and data signals to and from a backplane of the tray, and the circuit board also providing a front mounted connector for storage device signals;

a mass storage device, positioned in a front portion of the tray, the mass storage device having a rear mounted connector for storage device signals, the rear mounted connector located in a position on a rear face of the mass storage device;

support rails, located in a front portion of the tray, for mounting the mass storage device to the tray; and

at least one spacer, disposed between the mass storage device and at least one of the support rails, the spacer having a thickness chosen according to a position of the rear mounted connector on the mass storage device,

so that the front connector on the circuit board mates directly to the rear connector on the mass storage device, and so that a different mass storage device having a rear mounted connector in a different position can be mounted in the same sled module by using a spacer with a different thickness.

18. A sled module as in claim 17 wherein the storage device signals comprise data signals.

19. A sled module as in claim 17 wherein the storage device signals comprise power signals.
